



City of Hampton, VA

Meeting Minutes

City Council

22 Lincoln Street
Hampton, VA 23669
www.hampton.gov

Linda Curtis
W. H. "Billy" Hobbs, Jr.
Will Moffett
Chris Snead
Christopher G. Stuart
Donnie R. Tuck
George E. Wallace, Mayor

Staff:
Mary Bunting, City Manager
Vanessa Valldejuli, City Attorney
Katherine K. Glass, CMC, Clerk of Council

Wednesday, February 26, 2014 5:32 PM Council Chambers, 8th Floor, City Hall

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

GEORGE E. WALLACE PRESIDED

PRESENT: Chris Snead, Christopher G. Stuart, Donnie R. Tuck

ABSENT: Linda Curtis, W. H. "Billy" Hobbs, Jr., Will Moffett

Mayor Wallace welcomed everyone to the Spotlight on Citizens Program and called upon Clerk of Council Katherine Glass to call the roll. Mayor Wallace noted that Councilman Hobbs was absent due to an illness and Vice Mayor Curtis and Councilman Moffett were away attending a conference in New Orleans regarding youth related violence programs.

Mayor Wallace noted that a proclamation proclaiming March 9-15, 2014 as Girl Scout Week was read and presented earlier today. He then recognized the Girl Scouts, their leaders, their parents and friends who were in attendance by having them stand. He applauded them for their hard work and all they do in our community.

INVOCATION – CHRISTOPHER G. STUART

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CEREMONIAL ITEMS

"Spotlight on Citizens" - Focus on Volunteers with Youth Athletic Programs

Mayor Wallace introduced Social Media Coordinator Brian Marchese to emcee the program.

Mr. Marchese greeted those on the dais and welcomed everyone to the Spotlight on Citizens Program, City Council's monthly opportunity to formally hear about some of the City's outstanding residents and businesses.

Mr. Marchese stated that Hampton has a long tradition of athletics, and its benefits to our youth are immeasurable. He noted that the Executive Producer of PBS Sports program, Get in the Game, said, "The evidence supporting sports participation for young people is overwhelming . . . it has the power to combat everything from racism to low self-image, to the high-school drop-out rate".

Mr. Marchese described how youth can benefit from athletic programs in communities: Youth sports increases the awareness of one's body and how it responds to different stimuli and circumstances. Sports help prevent drug and alcohol abuse. Most athletes value what their bodies can do and want to maintain those abilities. Studies have shown that there are reduced crime rates in areas with sports-based youth development initiatives. Students are also more likely to perform well in school, have higher grades on national tests, graduate from high school, go to college, become and remain employed, become directors and managers, become business and political leaders and contribute to society by participating in social and charitable programs.

Mr. Marchese stated that Hampton has many opportunities for its youth to participate in athletics throughout the City. He then recognized some of the organizations that help our youth and stated that the groups in attendance tonight represent over 350 years of service to our youth with approximately 3,000 kids per year going through their programs. He noted that this calculates to almost 3,000 kids who are building their self-esteem, self-respect and dignity, being provided social interaction with their peers and adults, developing their talents, being taught sportsmanship and how to control their emotions, learning about teamwork, playing by the rules, dealing with adversity, learning self-discipline and an awareness of the value of preparation, dealing with criticism and providing leadership opportunities for them, and developing skills for handling success and failure among other things.

Mr. Marchese then listed some of these groups, their representative, the number of years the group has been in service, the number of youths enrolled in each program, services provided by each group, and facility information. He noted there are additional groups and programs; however, these are the ones represented here this evening.

1) Fox Hill Athletic Association

Attending: Lisa Quidera, Crystal Jones

Years in Service: 37

Youths Enrolled: 600

Services: football, basketball, softball, cheerleading

Facilities: their meeting location was damaged during the most recent tornado

2) Guide Right Youth Program (Sponsored by the Hampton/Newport News Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.)

Attending: Linwood J. Smith, President; Arthur M. Price, Jr., Chairman

Years in Service: 39

Youths Enrolled: 300

Services: 3 youth football teams, 3 cheering squads, 8 basketball teams

Facilities: Citizen's Unit, Boys and Girls Club, 1815 Shell Road, A.W.E. Bassette Elementary School located at 671 Bell Street, Thomas Eaton Middle School located at 2108 Cunningham Drive, Boo Williams Sportsplex

3) VIP United, Football Club

Attending: Matthew W. Hoffman, President; Joseph F. Slezak, Treasurer and Director of Coaching

Years in Service: 16

Youths Enrolled: 150

Services: youth soccer, ages 5 to 18

Facilities: sole use and maintenance of field behind Smith Elementary, maintenance of one field and use of the Buckroe Soccer Complex, sole use and maintenance of the soon to be created VIP United, Football Club Soccer Park on Patch Drive on Fort Monroe

4) Jefferson Davis Middle School/Aberdeen Athletics

Attending: Dwayne Campbell, Damond Pope

Years in Service: 25

Youths Enrolled: 40

Services: boys and girls basketball

Facilities: Jefferson Davis Middle School and Northampton Community Center

5) Hampton Cavaliers

Attending: Kevin Custis, Carlisa Merritt

Years in Service: 14

Youths Enrolled: 100

Services: basketball, football, cheerleading for youth ages 6 - 18

Facilities: Barron Elementary School field, Old Hampton Community Center, Fort Monroe Community Center

6) Y.H. Thomas

Attending: Kivinie Johnson

Years in Service: 26

Youths Enrolled: 300

Services: football, basketball, cheerleading, baseball

Facilities: Y.H. Thomas Community Center

7) Phenix Basketball

Attending: Andrew Lloyd, Cathy Williams

Years in Service: 4

Youths Enrolled: 35

Services: basketball teams for intermediate and junior boys and girls

Facilities: Phenix PreK-8 School gym, Boo Williams Sportsplex

8) Hampton Wythe Little League

Attending: Sharon Troy, Vice President; Molly Patrick, Uniform Coordinator

Years in Service: 60

Youths Enrolled: 300

Services: baseball, softball for youth ages 4-16

Facilities: games and practices are held at the Hampton Wythe Little League, a T-ball field, a minor/major field, a machine pitch/softball field. All Junior and Senior games and practices are held at Post 31. Fields at Armstrong Elementary School and Andrews Middle School are used for practice.

9) Pin 2 Win Wrestling Club

Attending: Janet Williams

Years in Service: 30

Youths Enrolled: 35

Services: community-based support program for the competitive sport of wrestling to elementary and middle school students; primary role is to nurture the balanced student-athletes through the personal growth of each wrestler.

Facilities: Bethel High School, Phoebus High School, and Hampton High School

10) Phillips Athletic Association

Attending: Kathy Cato

Years in Service: 50

Youths Enrolled: 1,150

Services: soccer and baseball programs

Facilities: Gosnold's Hope Park, Phillips Elementary School, Syms Middle School, Barron Elementary School, Jones Middle School, Hampton Soccer Park

11) Hampton Tornados Youth Football and Cheerleading League

Attending: Leroy Mask; Georgia Wesley

Years in Service: 25

Youths Enrolled: 140

Services: youth football, cheerleading, tutoring

Facilities: Westhampton Community Center

At Mr. Marchese's request, the audience gave the attendees representing these groups a round of applause for their service to our youth. He also thanked the parents, coaches, hot dog salesmen, chauffeurs, cheerleaders and everyone involved in supporting these youth.

Mayor Wallace commented that we are proud of the services these groups render to our community as they reach the young people at a vulnerable age and teach them sportsmanship, team work and respect for others. The group representatives were then photographed with the members of Council as they were presented with City of Hampton commemorative coins.

Mr. Marchese recognized two additional groups in attendance: the Hampton Hawkeyes Athletic Association (represented by Keith Boyer) which provides youth football services, and Dean Ball Sports, Inc. (represented by Butch Harper) which provides football and soccer services.

Mayor Wallace thanked everyone for their participation in the meeting and noted that the Public Comment Period would begin at 6:00 p.m. following a 10 minute recess.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Wallace welcomed everyone to the Public Comment portion of the meeting and called upon Clerk of Council Katherine Glass to read the protocol.

Mayor Wallace noted that he would deviate from the normal order of business to give special recognition to some guests who were in attendance. He explained that earlier in the evening, several Girl Scouts were recognized and now we would also like to recognize two Boy Scouts, Jason Bryce, Jr. and Deondre Manley, who have been working toward receiving their Eagle Scout designation. He noted that Scout Leaders Jeffrey Sheets, Sr. and Sam Samuels were also in attendance. The Boy Scouts and

their Scout Leaders stood to be recognized and were photographed with Mayor Wallace as he presented the scouts with City lapel pins.

Ms. Ashleigh Stukes, 216 Kove Drive, greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: Good evening. My name is Ashleigh Stukes and I am a Girl Scout in troop 1289. I am one of 16,000 girls in the council that serves southeastern Virginia and northeastern North Carolina. The benefits of girl scouting include learning to be independent, being resourceful and making a difference in our community. I personally believe that through our Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Programs and educational pathways, we are continuing to break the mold of what a little girl can do. I can't wait to be what I choose to be. Thank you for your time.

Additional Girl Scouts in attendance joined Ms. Stukes on the dais and presented each member of Council with a box of Girl Scout cookies. City Manager Mary Bunting noted that this is the time of year when Girl Scouts sell cookies, and therefore, people may wish to purchase cookies from Girl Scouts at various locations.

Mayor Wallace thanked the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts for attending the meeting and presenting Council with the gift of cookies.

Mr. Edwin Boone, 48 Snow Street, greeted those on the dais and made the following statement: Recently, I mentioned about Hampton being the murder capital of the Tidewater area, and Mayor George Wallace laughed. So, this is for the preachers, politicians, leadership and citizens of Hampton. It is election time now and the elected officials are looking to run for office. My question is: How can you endorse a man that has laughed about your kids getting murdered in the streets? At a time, Molly Ward, the former Mayor and George, the Vice Mayor, were on the Fort Monroe Board Authority and they got kicked off because there was a conflict of interest. How can the Mayor and Vice Mayor be on there and Fort Monroe is in Hampton and be on the Fort Monroe Board? So, I asked George Wallace (at that time) if Hampton is 51% minority isn't there at least one minority that could have replaced you, Mr. Wallace. His answer was no. There are seven seats available up here: six Councilmembers and one Mayor. So, that is seven seats. There are five seats available. When the former Mayor Molly Ward was here, they voted six lockstep. It is always six against one. There was one that stood with the people. So, in that six against one, with five seats available, there are two already in the cut waiting that voted lockstep with the other four to make it six. If Mayor Wallace runs uncontested, they have already locked in two plus he will make three and all they will need is one more vote out of the four to have their majority vote. What we need to do, people, is keep that one and since there will be three left, we need to keep that one and we have to have the other three to make our four votes to have our four out of seven to have our majority vote. That is what is important. This is so important this time, citizens. In two moves, they put us \$43 million in debt. So, we have to keep our one and have our three for the citizens, otherwise, Hampton is going to hell in a hand basket – quoted by Mayor George Wallace. Thank you.

Ms. Elizabeth McCoury, 4410 E. Claiborne Square, Executive Director of Coliseum Central, greeted those on the dais and then announced the following awards given at their annual meeting held February 25th:

McDonalds - Most Improved Property (for a major renovation)

Zaxby's - Best New Construction

Peninsula Town Center - Keep Coliseum Central Beautiful Award (for landscaping, banners and recycling)

Coliseum Crossing - Best Maintained Property Award

Carolyn Kincaid - Volunteer of the Year

Boo Williams - Business Person of the Year (also recognized for being a dedicated and talented Board Member)

Ms. McCoury noted that the Boo Williams Sportsplex generates a tremendous amount of business within Coliseum Central and Mr. Williams is a very dedicated and talented Board Member.

Ms. McCoury also shared that Mitchel Silver, the Director of Planning and Community Development for Raleigh North Carolina, spoke at the meeting and has been internationally recognized as an innovator in planning community development. She added that some of the key takeaways were that we need to recognize the changing demographics of our community and the aging population and the rise of single person households. She noted that typically, our neighborhoods and communities are designed for families; however, this is a changing trend which will take place over the next ten years and we need to plan for our market. She closed her comments stating – "If you want to lead, you have to plan ahead".

Mayor Wallace noted that Ms. McCoury was the last person signed up to speak and called for additional speakers from those in the audience. There were none.

Mayor Wallace opened the floor for comments from those on the dais.

Councilman Stuart called attention to an item that our Convention and Visitors Bureau has been distributing regarding Hampton Restaurant Week which will occur sometime between March 2 and March 9 where participating restaurants will offer a single price lunch or a three course dinner. He noted that according to the list he currently has, the participating restaurants include: The Regatta Grille, Stillwater Tavern, Musasi Japanese Restaurant, The Grey Goose, Venture Kitchen and Bar, Conch and Bucket, The Tap House, Marker 20, Cyprus Grille, Grandview Island Grille, Sarah's Irish Pub, Olde Towne Tavern and The Point at Phoebus. Councilman Stuart encouraged everyone to participate in this event and enjoy the various things which are available.

Mayor Wallace thanked Councilman Stuart for the information and called for additional comments from those on the dais. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

George E. Wallace
Mayor

Katherine K. Glass, CMC
Clerk of Council

Date approved by Council _____